

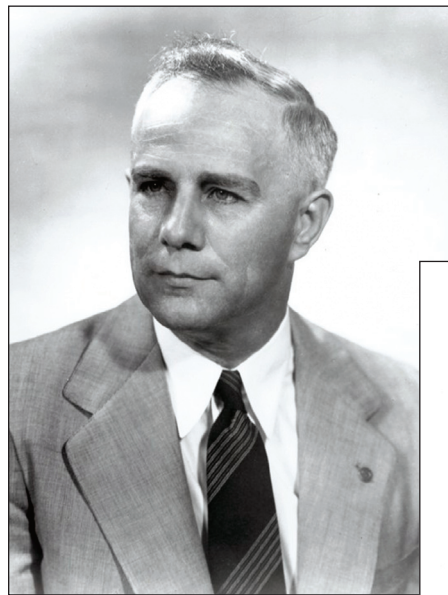


Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force

Success Story

PENTAGON HONORS PAST PROPULSION DIRECTORATE CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES



Two former Propulsion Directorate employees, Mr. Daniel A. (Adam) Dickey (top left photo) and Mr. Ernest C. (Cliff) Simpson (bottom right photo), were recently selected as inaugural members of the Career Civil Service Exemplars. Of the nine individuals chosen as Exemplars, Mr. Dickey and Mr. Simpson were the only two Air Force (AF) civil servants recognized in the past 200 years. They both earned this prestigious recognition through their accomplishments in the directorate.



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Accomplishment

Mr. Dickey had a distinguished career that spanned from World War I through his retirement from the directorate in 1957. He developed and tested radical, advanced hollow Bakelite Micarta reversible-pitch propellers that did not bend like conventional propellers of the day. He then tested and evaluated other materials for propellers, including an aluminum alloy that was first used on the World War II era B-17 "Flying Fortress." As the size and power of military aircraft increased, Mr. Dickey contributed to the design and construction of state-of-the-art testing facilities still in use today. In December 1943, he was chosen from among 1.5 million civilian employees as the first recipient of the Defense Emblem of Exceptional Civilian Service Medal.

Mr. Simpson was recognized for his rare combination of both technical expertise in propulsion and leadership abilities that resulted in legendary accomplishments in turbine engine research and development. Following his service in the US Army during World War II and the Korean War, he worked for 34 years in the directorate. He played an integral role in advancing the technology of high bypass ratio engines, which enable today's largest commercial airliners. He also conceived and implemented the "building block" approach to engine development that became the industry standard. He received the Exceptional Civilian Service Award, the highest honorary award a civilian employee of the AF can receive, and he was a joint recipient of the prestigious Goddard Award in 1968.

Background

Senior military and Defense Department officials and historians planned the Pentagon's Career Civilian Corridor during the past year. This inaugural event selected civil servants from 1789 to the present, with subsequent Exemplar nominations planned for every 10 years.

Additional Information

To receive more information about this or other activities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, contact TECH CONNECT, AFRL/XPTC, (800) 203-6451 and you will be directed to the appropriate laboratory expert. (04-PR-31)

Propulsion
Awards and Recognition